In the Claims:

1-4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) The dish rack according to claim 46 wherein the polymer layer is a thermoplastic.

6. (Original) The dish rack according to claim 5 wherein the thermoplastic is a non-hydrocarbon carbon-chain polymer.

7. (Original) The dish rack according to claim 6 wherein the non-hydrocarbon carbon chain polymer is a polyvinyl chloride.

8. (Original) The dish rack according to claim 5 wherein the thermoplastic is a polyvinyl chloride blend.

9. (Previously Presented) The dish rack according to claim 46 wherein the metal frame comprises a wire-form having multiple interconnected wires.

10. (Original) The dish rack according to claim 9 wherein the wire form defines a bottom wall and a peripheral wall extending upwardly from the bottom wall to form an open-top, dish-holding recess.

11. (Original) The dish rack according to claim 10 and the wire form further comprising at least one set of tines located within the dish-holding recess.

12. (Previously Presented) The dish rack according to claim 46 wherein the entire metal frame is covered by the exterior coating.

13. (Withdrawn) The dish rack according to claim 1 wherein the exterior coating further comprises a primer layer between the electrocoated layer and the polymer layer.

14. (Withdrawn) The dish rack according to claim 13 wherein the primer layer comprises a water-based primer.

15. (Withdrawn) The dish rack according to claim 13 wherein the primer layer comprises a non-water-based primer.

16. (Withdrawn) The dish rack according to claim 15 wherein the primer layer comprises an acetone-based primer.

17. (Withdrawn) The dish rack according to claim 15 wherein the primer layer comprises a methyl ethyl ketone-based primer.

18-20. (Canceled)

21. (Withdrawn) The dish rack according to claim 19 wherein the polymer layer is a thermoplastic.

22. (Withdrawn) The dish rack according to claim 21 wherein the thermoplastic is a non-hydrocarbon carbon -chain polymer.

23. (Withdrawn) The dish rack according to claim 22 wherein the non-hydrocarbon carbon chain polymer is a polyvinyl chloride.

24. (Withdrawn) The dish rack according to claim 21 wherein the thermoplastic is a polyvinyl chloride blend.

25. (Withdrawn) The dish rack according to claim 21 and further comprising a corrosion-resistant layer between the electrocoated layer and the metal frame.

26. (Withdrawn) The dish rack according to claim 25 wherein the corrosion-resistant layer comprises an iron phosphate layer.

27. (Withdrawn) The dish rack according to claim 25 wherein the corrosion-resistant layer comprises a zinc phosphate layer.

28. (Withdrawn) The dish rack according to claim 25 wherein the corrosion-resistant layer comprises a tri-chrome sealer layer.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Withdrawn) The automated dishwasher according to claim 29 wherein the exterior coating further comprises a primer layer between the electrocoated layer and the polymer layer.

31. (Withdrawn) The automated dishwasher according to claim 30 wherein the primer layer comprises a water-based primer.

32. (Withdrawn) The automated dishwasher according to claim 30 wherein the primer layer comprises a non-water-based primer.

33. (Withdrawn) The automated dishwasher according to claim 32 wherein the primer layer comprises an acetone-based primer.

34. (Withdrawn) The automated dishwasher according to claim 32 wherein the primer layer comprises a methyl ethyl ketone-based primer.

35-36. (Canceled)

37. (Withdrawn) The automated dishwasher according to claim 36 wherein the paint layer is non-metallic.

38. (Withdrawn) The automated dishwasher according to claim 30 wherein the polymer layer is a thermoplastic.

39. (Withdrawn) The automated dishwasher according to claim 38 wherein the thermoplastic is a non-hydrocarbon carbon-chain polymer.

40. (Withdrawn) The automated dishwasher according to claim 39 wherein the non-hydrocarbon carbon chain polymer is a polyvinyl chloride.

41. (Withdrawn) The automated dishwasher according to claim 38 wherein the thermoplastic is a polyvinyl chloride blend.

42. (Withdrawn) The automated dishwasher according to claim 38 and further comprising a corrosion-resistant layer between the electrocoated layer and the metal frame.

43. (Withdrawn) The automated dishwasher according to claim 42 wherein the corrosion-resistant layer comprises an iron phosphate layer.

44. (Withdrawn) The automated dishwasher according to claim 42 wherein the corrosion-resistant layer comprises a zinc phosphate layer.

45. (Withdrawn) The automated dishwasher according to claim 42 wherein the corrosion-resistant layer comprises a tri-chrome sealer layer.

46. (Currently Amended) A dish rack for an automated dishwasher, comprising:

a metal frame configured to support dishes, and

an exterior coating covering at least a portion of the metal frame to protect the metal frame from corrosion, the exterior coating ~~and~~ comprising:

an electrocoated, non-metallic paint layer on the metal frame, and

a polymer layer on the electrocoated, non-metallic paint layer;

~~whereby the exterior coating protects the metal frame from corrosion while providing an aesthetic appearance~~.

47. (Currently Amended) An automated dishwasher, comprising:

a wash tub having top, bottom, side, and rear walls, which collectively form an open-faced wash chamber;

a door hingedly mounted relative to the wash tub for movement between an open and closed conditions to selectively close the open-faced wash chamber;

a dish rack located within the open-faced wash chamber and comprising a metal frame configured to support dishes; and

an exterior coating covering at least a portion of the metal frame to protect the metal frame from corrosion, the exterior coating~~and~~ comprising:

an electrocoated, non-metallic paint layer on the metal frame, and

a polymer layer on the electrocoated, non-metallic paint layer;

~~whereby the exterior coating protects the metal frame from corrosion while providing an aesthetic appearance~~.

48. (New) A method of protecting a metal frame dish rack for an automated dishwasher from corrosion, the method comprising the steps of:

applying an electrocoated paint layer on the metal frame, the electrocoated layer covering to at least a portion of the metal frame;

applying a polymer layer on the electrocoated paint layer.

49. (New) The method of claim 48 wherein the polymer layer is a thermoplastic.

50. (New) The method of claim 49 wherein the thermoplastic is a non-hydrocarbon carbon-chain polymer.

51. (New) The method of claim 50 wherein the non-hydrocarbon carbon-chain polymer is a polyvinyl chloride.

52. (New) The method of claim 49 wherein the thermoplastic is a polyvinyl chloride blend.